

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-20. (Cancelled).

21. (New) An apparatus for forming an optical film, comprising:

a casting section to cast a dope onto a support;

a peeling section peeling a film from the support;

a tenter drying section drying the peeled film; and

a winding section winding film in a roll over a length of at least 1000 m,

wherein the film has film thickness of 20 to 60  $\mu\text{m}$  and variation in the film thickness within  $\pm 3.0$  percent of the standard film thickness.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the support is a drum.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the dope comprises cellulose ester.

24. (New) A method for forming an optical film, comprising:

casting a dope onto a support to form a film on the support;

peeling the film from the support;

drying the peeled film at a tenter drying section; and

winding the film in a roll over a length of at least 1000 m,  
wherein the film has film thickness of 20 to 60  $\mu$ m and variation in the film  
thickness within  $\pm$ 3.0 percent of the standard film thickness.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the support is a drum.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the dope comprises a cellulose ester  
compound.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the cellulose ester compound is  
composed of ration of wood pulp cellulose/cotton linter cellulose = 60/40 to 0/100 by  
weight.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein cellulose ester comprises a lower  
fatty acid esters of cellulose.

29. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the dope comprises benzotriazole.

30. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the dope comprises a plasticizers  
having a solidifying point of no more than 20 °C.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the cellulose ester has an acetated  
degree of 54 to 62 percent.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the cellulose ester has an acetated degree of at least 59 percent.

33. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the winding speed is not less than 30 m/minutes.

34. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the film is a polarizer protective film, a phase difference film, a reflective film, a visibility increasing film, a glare minimizing film, a non-reflective film, or an antistatic film.